

News of the Day.

A public meeting was held in Nashville Saturday morning to manifest approval of President Johnson's policy of reconstruction. The meeting was addressed, among others, by ex-Gov. Neil S. Brown and the irrepressible H. H. Hunt, and a vote was taken on John Bell's statement of inability to attend, but saying he would address the citizens at some future day, if desired to do so. The endorsement of Johnson's policy was exceedingly gratifying to President Johnson.

Secretary Stanton, while in Boston, had a protracted interview with the ex-rebel Secretary Mallory at Fort Lafayette, the latter having requested to see him.

Gen. Grant was received in Cincinnati, on Saturday, with the popular demonstrations that have attended his presence everywhere in the West.

He is expected to leave for Cincinnati to go East for about ten days. In the meantime he will visit Indianapolis. Could he not be induced to visit Louisville?

A Washington correspondent of the New York World says that if not three, of the members of the Cabinet, are opposed to placing Jeff. Davis on trial, preferring that he should leave the country forever.

Gov. Bramlette is still in Washington, and has had several interviews with the President on affairs in this State.

The census just taken in Wisconsin gives the following: Total number of inhabitants 288,627. The population in 1850 was 175,620. A gain is thus shown in five years of 63,227. The Wisconsin leading journals think there is little doubt that by 1870 the population of the State will reach fully 1,000,000.

An ordinance abolishing slavery was passed by the Alabama Convention by a vote of 83 to 3, on Saturday. It declares it will be the duty of the Legislature at its next session, to take such laws as will protect them in the full enjoyment of their rights of person and property, and guard them and the State from any and all claims that may arise from their slaveholding.

The propeller Buckeye, bound for Toledo, struck a rock and sunk in the St. Lawrence river night before last. Six persons are supposed to have been lost.

The election in North Carolina for members of the Constitutional Convention took place last Thursday. A dispatch from Gov. Holden states that one-half of the State has been heard from, and the result was most gratifying.

The Fenian movement in Ireland is creating a good deal of alarm over here. The Times calls for immediate action by the Government to suppress it. We may have an opportunity before long to see how England deals with rebels.

Satisfactory treaties have been made with all the Indian tribes represented at the Council at Fort Smith. Another Indian Council is to be held about the 4th of October. It is expected that the majority of the Indians will be present.

Council Grove, Kansas, instead of the head waters of the Arkansas, as previously arranged.

Colorado has indorsed the new State Constitution by an overwhelming vote. The southern counties of the Territory, which have heretofore opposed State organization, declined to vote at all at the recent election.

The effect of this is that the majority of the State is much larger than anticipated. All that is now required is an act of Congress admitting the new State into the Union.

The bridge on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, at Watuga river, is completed, and trains are now running over and connecting with the trains at Union Depot, on the Erie Railroad, and the line through to Lynchburg, formerly one continuous line of communication to the East, with but one transshipment, and this one made in connection with the Erie in the next fifteen days, completing the entire line from New York to Atlanta, via Chattanooga.

Circular Number 17.
OFFICE KENTUCKY STATE AGENCY,
11 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 17, 1865.

The following letter, addressed to this office by the Commissary General of Prisoners, is published for the information and benefit of all persons entitled to commutation of sentence during the late rebellion.

I am at all times ready to furnish the proper blanks on application by letter to this office, and to forward to all such business free of all costs and charges.

The commutation of sentences to prisoners of war during captivity is a personal allowance, and therefore is not the subject of device or deceit.

The application should be substantially as follows:

First. Affidavit of the applicant, fixing the time and place of capture and release, and showing that no commutation has been received for any portion of the time specified.

Second. The affidavit of the applicant must be supported by the certificate of an officer, or the affidavit of a soldier who was in prison with the applicant.

Third. The certificate of an officer, (an affidavit if out of service), showing that the applicant never, by desertion or absence without leave, forfeited his claim.

Fourth. The identity of the applicant, as well as that of his witnesses, must be well established.

Fifth. The signatures of all officers not known to the office of the Commissary General of Prisoners must be verified by that of some officer of the United States, civil or military.

C. D. PENNEBAKER,
Agent State of Kentucky.

OFFICE OF THE COM. GEN. OF PRISONERS,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 15, 1865.

C. D. Pennebaker, Esq., Military State Agent State of Kentucky--Sir: To relieve soldiers who are entitled to commutation of sentence for the time they were held by the rebels as prisoners of war from the great expense which attends their obtaining this allowance through the courts, I would respectfully suggest that you notify all enlisted men from your State having such claims to forward them to you for presentation to this Bureau.

When the claims shall be found to be correct the certificates will be made out and delivered to you, upon presenting which, accompanied by the proper vouchers duly signed by the soldier, to the Commissary General of Subsistence, he will order payment by a check payable to the order of the soldier to whom the commutation is due, thus saving to the soldiers the amounts otherwise paid to claim agents.

The blanks for vouchers mentioned above may be obtained upon application to the Subsistence Department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Brev't Brig. Gen. U. S. A.,
Com. Gen'l Pris.

The following is from the Annan (Scotland) Observer, of August 31st. The advertisement referred to was inserted by Mr. David M. Bell, of Lexington, who left there for Scotland last July, for the purpose of bringing laborers to that section of Kentucky, arrangements for which were made by Mr. Bell with a number of farmers previous to his departure.

FARM LABORERS WANTED IN KENTUCKY.
—It will be seen by an advertisement in another part of to-day's Observer, that from 75 to 100 farm servants, male and female, married and single, are wanted to go to Kentucky, one of the middle States of America most favored as to climate, and in which the industries are chiefly agricultural. Good inducements are held out as to wages and prospects of profitable employment. A gentleman from Kentucky is at present in this locality preparing to enter into engagements with intending emigrants. This gentleman is well known in Annan, and is a son of Mr. George Bell, Cum gratia Lord Annan, who has been in America in about three weeks.

ALABAMA WAR DEBT.

The vote of the Alabama Convention was not in regard to the rebel Confederacy's war debt, but simply in regard to the paying of Alabama's State debt, incurred in the prosecution of the war. Of course Alabama has a right to pay this debt if she can.

Citizens of Alabama in their individual capacity may have such a right. But the government of the State has no more right to impose that debt upon those citizens in the shape of taxes than it has to impose the "Confederate" debt. No legitimate State government contracted the one more than the other. To authenticate the claims of the one, is to do this for both. And to do it for either is to recognize the rebel State organization as a legitimate law-making power.

The Alabama Convention has passed a resolution declaring the act of secession null and void, an act that nothing can make legal and constitutional. Of course it follows that all legislation based on this illegitimate act is equally null and without authority. And yet the Convention declares that the debt incurred by this bogus government is a legitimate claim against the State. The position is absurd, and we believe the first man that resists payment of his share of the debt, and appeals to the courts will be sustained.

There are some loyal men in Alabama as in every other rebel State where slaves existed. And the general Government will see to it that these are protected from paying any part of the expenses incurred by rebels in their revolt against national authority.

The Alabama Convention has been involved in this assumption of the rebel war debt, the influence of the measure is pernicious and dangerous. Omitting the consideration of its effect upon money lenders, the world over, (who will be led to regard bogus governments as being equally good creditors with legitimate ones, which circumstance of itself will be a standing facility and temptation to revolt), and omitting the virtual announcement of State sovereignty involved in the measure, its direct and almost immediate effect upon the tax-payers of the State will be to arouse the sentiment of repudiation towards all State and national liabilities. For it is too obvious to bear discussion, that no rebel State can carry on a war debt, and pay any share of the national debt, in addition to its other legitimate liabilities, all at once. A deliberate attempt to do the first, therefore, is simply the deliberate beginning of repudiation. It won't do. States can't get back to their old places with that pack of discords and evil on their shoulders.

Let them push on. There is a great deal yet to be done. Emancipation orators and newspapers ought to be suppressed after Gen. Palmer. And the President of the United States upholds the General, he should by all means be indicted by one of our enlightened and patriotic grand juries.

Hurry up "gentlemen of the jury." Vindicate the sovereignty of your majestic State over its domestic institutions. Time is short. The day of your probation and service as the special custodians of the divine and lovely institution of slavery draws rapidly to a close. Now is the time to make the biggest kind of fools of yourselves. No such opportunity will recur for a generation.

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For if whole races of men are permanently incapable of wise and successful self-government, then our Democratic axiom is false, and should be repudiated. There must be some other source in that case, than the "consent of the governed" from which governments may derive "just powers."

And it becomes an open question then whether the "consent of the governed" is ever an essential condition of the justice and legitimate authority of a government. If we decide that it is such in any case and not in others, we are bound to ascertain and to establish in an ample and explicit manner, the reasons why, and the cases when it is, and why when it is not.

And we are bound too, to make it not only a legitimate source of authority apparent. If white people are the only inhabitants on this earth endowed with inalienable rights, and whose consent is the sole legitimation of any authority that may be exercised over them, we should know why this is so.

We suspect that a system of political philosophy which should recognize only such a partial application of Democratic principles, would speedily forsake Democracy altogether and merge in monarchism, the divine right of kings, and the immutable foundations of caste. It seems to us impossible to defend Democracy, on self-evident principles that are neither self-evident nor indeed principles at all.

We are glad the controversy is fully under way respecting negro suffrage. It will compel people to do a little careful and independent thinking. The white voters of the country are none too familiar with the philosophy and significance of the form of government under which they live.

A thorough and honest school teacher will inevitably follow the agitation of negro suffrage.

GRAND JURIES IN KENTUCKY.
The grand jury of the Circuit Court of Louisville, as we understand, have found bills of indictment against Major Gen. Palmer and Brig. Gen. Breckinridge for abducting slaves and otherwise interfering with the slave laws of Kentucky. Kentucky grand juries are becoming decidedly facetious, given to practical jokes. We hope they will enjoy the laugh that will turn the wrong way one of these days. Perhaps nothing could better serve the cause of emancipation in this State than just such conduct as this of its enemies. We trust they will persevere in their cussedness. The contempt of the whole nation for them is not yet at its acme.

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THE LOYAL MOVEMENT IN THE M. E. CHURCH SOUTH.—We learn that defection from the M. E. Church South is going on at all the principal points within the Kentucky Conference. At Lexington, the Church nearly unanimously declined receiving the preacher sent by Bishop Kavanaugh. From other points we have seen letters from leading laymen expressing great dissatisfaction with the action of the late Conference. In some of the charges, the substantial, reliable members will not support any man who voted for the minority report, which favored the perpetuation of the Church South. In Newport the loyal members of the Church are greatly incensed to find a man fresh from the rebellion imposed upon them. In Covington some of the principal members of Scott Street Church have left a meeting at which they resolved to withdraw from the Church South, and thus relieve themselves from the support of a ministry and church that has committed itself against reunion. From indications, we incline to the opinion that the preachers of the Kentucky Conference greatly erred as to the disposition of the people to reunite with the M. E. Church. The unwise course of the Conference will create discontent everywhere among the churches.

LOUISVILLE, September 23.
Messrs. Hamilton, Robinson and Bridgeford—Gentlemen: Since my return from Louisville I have investigated the facts as to the shipment of goods to Johnson's Station from Cincinnati by the Eclipse Line at less rates than we were charging from Louisville, and find that at the time we had the rate to Johnson's, and our clerk being informed that the place was located near the State line, below Chattanooga, he gave the rate to that place.

In substantiation of this, I beg leave to submit herewith the certificate of Messrs. J. H. Deters & Co., shippers of the goods. Since that time we have a rate to Johnson's Station, East Tennessee, and several shipments have been made from here at fifty cents per one hundred pounds over the rate from Louisville.

Trusting this explanation may be satisfactory, I remain, very respectfully, yours,
AUG. BRADLEY, Ass't Sup't.

CINCINNATI, September 15, 1865.
Messrs. Hamilton, Robinson and Bridgeford—Gentlemen: Since my return from Louisville I have investigated the facts as to the shipment of goods to Johnson's Station from Cincinnati by the Eclipse Line at less rates than we were charging from Louisville, and find that at the time we had the rate to Johnson's, and our clerk being informed that the place was located near the State line, below Chattanooga, he gave the rate to that place.

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